

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 7048

By Butler

A RESOLUTION to commemorate August 1, 2023, as National Gold Star Children's Day.

WHEREAS, the designation of Gold Star Families began in the United States shortly after World War I to provide support for mothers who lost sons or daughters in the war; and

WHEREAS, the reference to Gold Star comes from the custom of military families hanging a service flag in the window of their homes, displaying a gold star for those who have perished while serving in the line of duty in the U.S. Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the families of fallen soldiers have made a tremendous sacrifice on behalf of our country and should never be forgotten; the United States began observing Gold Star Mother's Day on the last Sunday in September in 1936, and April 5 is recognized as Gold Star Spouses Day; and

WHEREAS, no one has given more to this country than the families of the fallen, and it is most often the children who carry on the legacy and tell the stories of the ultimate sacrifice their father or mother made for the freedoms of our nation; and

WHEREAS, all members of the Gold Star families deserve to be recognized by our local, state, and national leaders for their sacrifices and for their dedicated and patriotic support of the United States; however, there is no date dedicated to the children of America's fallen soldiers; and

WHEREAS, supporting Gold Star families who have lost loved ones to combat demonstrates the commitment of the American people to those families now and in the future; we encourage all Tennesseans to perform acts of service and good will in their communities and celebrate families whose loved ones have made the ultimate sacrifice so that we can continue to enjoy life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commemorate August 1, 2023, as National Gold Star Children's Day, honoring the sacrifices and pain of the children of America's soldiers who have been lost in combat, and pay highest tribute to these American heroes whose dedication and service to the United States promoted and protected the freedoms of our country.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.